

From the N. O. Commercial Times of Oct. 21.
LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

For the following information, giving an interesting account of the movements of the Government of Mexico to a late date. We are indebted to the Patria, a Spanish paper printed here, the editors of which issued an extra paper yesterday morning. One of the passengers who arrived in New Orleans on Thursday afternoon with Gen. Sloat, brought hither a single copy of the *Diario de la Habana* of the 8th inst., which was handed to our Spanish contemporary, and in which appear the Mexican news above alluded to.

The English Royal Mail steamer the *Thames*, arrived in Havana, from Vera Cruz on the 7th inst., having on board \$174,000 in specie and forty passengers, among whom was General Parades. She brought Vera Cruz papers to the 30th ultimo.

The *Indicador* of the 17th ult. contains a circular signed by the Minister of War, addressed to the departments, directing the extraordinary contingents of men and munitions, lately called for by a decree of the Executive, to be forwarded to San Luis Potosi and the city of Mexico. On the 11th ult. it was stated in the capital, that on the next day the seat of Government of the State of Mexico was to be transferred to Toluca. The departmental assembly at Chihuahua had appointed Senior Frias Governor, in room of Senor Irigoyen, superseded through ill health.

Santa Fe—New Mexico.—Col. D. M. Ugarde, commanding the force marching to the assistance of Arriaga, having found, on the 23d of August, the Department quite panic stricken at the approach of the American army, decided on retiring to Valverde, having abandoned all hope of incorporating his auxiliaries with the troops of that General, a report having been brought in that an American force of 6,000 men were marching to the attack of the garrison in the North. Here follows a relation of the most remarkable events which characterized the operations of General Kearney in New Mexico, from the commencement of the invasion, with which our readers are already acquainted. According to the Mexican accounts, it appears that General Arriaga, rallied together, on the 4th of August, a force of two thousand men. On the 15th, a dispute arose amongst the principal officers of the auxiliary forces, the result of which was the disbanding of these bodies, when Gen. Arriaga retired to Gafisteo, abandoning the provincial companies altogether. The inhabitants attribute the loss of the Department to General Arriaga. On the 16th, Gen. Kearney, at the head of 2000 men, took possession of Santa Fe, when the American flag was hoisted, and the clergy and the authorities swore obedience to the new Government. The army, it was stated, would continue its march for the purpose of taking possession of the Paso del Norte. Gen. Arriaga had sent an express to his Government, with information that the American were about seizing Chihuahua.

On the 1st August the Supreme Tribunal of War was re-organized, presided over by General Alvarez. Then follows an account of the reception of Santa Anna in the capital, rejoicings, etc., etc., which we have already published; and the liberation of Commander Carpenter, the officers and men of the Truxton, who were to be exchanged for General La Vega. General Sloat, the present Executive of Mexico, had issued a decree, inviting foreigners, exercising useful professions, to naturalize themselves, promising them immediately all the rights, privileges, immunities, etc., of Mexican citizens. On the 9th of September the Americans took possession of the capital of New Mexico. On the 10th, the Commandant-General, Don Manuel Rodriguez Cota, arrived at Morelia.

Arista.—On the 17th, Gen. Arista arrived in Mexico, reached the capital, whither he had repaired to explain his conduct on the result of the actions on the 8th and 9th of May. On the same day, a meeting of the principal capitalists and commercial men was to take place at the office of the Minister of Finance, to arrange about a donation to be made to the Government at that particular juncture, and in the present dilemma in which it stood. On the 23d a meeting of the junta was charged with the task of proportioning the sum to be forwarded to the Supreme Government. Gen. Ampudia, under date 10th Sept., forwarded a dispatch regarding his Government that the Americans had not advanced on Monterey, although they had increased their forces in Camargo and Corralito. The capture of the Mexican brig-of-war *Malek* (banned by one of the U. S. Squadron at Mazatlan, was notified in the public prints. She was dismantled when taken. The Legislature Assembly of Chihuahua has authorized the Governor to contract a loan of \$5000, on hypothecating a quantity of tobacco under Yantz. Commandant General at Jalisco, marched on the 14th Sept., with a considerable number of troops, for Tepic and San Blas, in order to prepare for the defence of those points in case of invasion. Various particulars are recorded of the advance of Gen. Taylor's troops; the arrival of Ampudia at Monterey; his declaring the city in a state of siege, which are already well-known here. Gen. Mines Ponce had been appointed Governor of Tamaulipas.

Government.—A decree had been published in the city of Mexico on the 20th September, for the formation of a supreme council, to be composed of three individuals; in the event of the decrease of the General President of *luteria*, the president of the council should succeed him.

Nothing was known, at Vera Cruz, up to the 30th, of the capture of Monterey.

Departure of Santa Anna to take the chief command of the army opposing Gen. Taylor.—On the 24th ult., it was announced that the 1st Brigade of Cavalry had left the city of Mexico, en route for Monterey, and that Santa Anna was to leave the next morning. In order to expedite the march of the forces destined to operate with those under Ampudia, against the Americans, he had pledged his own personal credit. The National guard would alone form the garrison of the city; the other brigades were then marched out, with Santa Anna at their head on the 25th.

Ampudia is said, in the Vera Cruz papers, to have resigned, the command of the army of the North, which statement agrees with the fact which we published recently, from information received at the hands of one of the officers who came hither from Monterey, by the last arrival.

THE SUMTER BANNER.

Friday Morning, Nov. 6, 1846.

We issue the first number of our paper on this morning (Friday). Hereafter, we propose to issue it on Wednesday morning. It was our intention to have published this number on Wednesday last, but we were prevented by unavoidable difficulties.

TO OUR PATRONS, READERS, AND THE PUBLIC.

In presenting to our Patrons and the public, the first number of "THE SUMTER BANNER," it is proper to set forth the objects of the paper, which we propose to establish.

In doing this, a short and general view of the ability of Sumter District to support a newspaper, as a medium of common advertisement, and through which the news of the country and of the District may be conveyed to its inhabitants, may not be unsuitable.

Sumter, as is well known, is one of the largest, most populous, wealthy and intelligent Districts in the State. At the late election for State Senator, in the several counties of Claremont and Clarendon, upwards of eleven hundred votes were polled in Claremont, and seven hundred in Clarendon, making an aggregate amount of eighteen hundred votes in the whole District. In extent and situation of territory, it compares favorably with many, and surpassingly with most of the sister Districts of the State. Its soil, is watered by many rivers and streams, of greater and less magnitude, which, though not affording great facilities for navigation, supply sufficient for all present practical purposes; but their benefit is principally perceived in the produce which the rich low grounds on their banks afford. The cotton lands, generally, are level or slightly undulating, favorably situated for agriculture, well adapted for the growth of one of the great agricultural and commercial staples of the South, and furnish the pecuniary wealth, for which, in former years, this District was celebrated, and which is said, and is generally believed to belong to it. The intelligence of our people is as great as, under present circumstances, can be expected; and the legislative halls of the State bear witness to the independence, energy and intelligence of those whom the people elect to represent them.

The business of the District is extensive, both in an agricultural and mercantile point of view; and the litigation in our courts, both of law and equity, is some, and a good indication of the amount of contracts entered into by our people.

The extent and situation of Sumter District, the business and numbers, and the pecuniary means and intelligence, of its people, seem to warrant and encourage the present attempt, permanently, to establish among them a newspaper, as a medium of advertisement, general news, and business.

Many of the sister Districts of our state, have, for years, supported papers, and found them extremely useful for the purposes above mentioned. If Sumter has the will, she has the means; and we hope she will not withhold her encouragement.

To the planter and farmer, our paper affords the means of quickly making known to the public whatever he may have, and wish to dispose of; and, thereby, he may obtain immediate custom. To the merchant, we consider it unnecessary to speak of the benefits of advertising, which, in cities, are generally admitted to be great, and perhaps may be equally so in country Court House towns, and villages. We see no valid reason, why this should not be the case. To persons of other, and any occupations, we afford the

means of disseminating the knowledge of their respective employments, and of advertisements of various kinds.

It shall be our endeavor to advocate what we conceive to be the true interests of the District and village of Sumter, and to promote a spirit of enlightened enterprise and liberality in all that pertains to the benefit of each and both.

In our miscellaneous columns, we shall endeavor to furnish the planter and farmer with agricultural matter, which shall interest and instruct them, and which shall be practical as well as theoretical in its nature.

The importance of the proposed Railroad between Wilmington and the Camden Rail Road, in the western part of this District, will justly receive our attention, and be held up before the public, as long as it is requisite. We shall be wanting in our duty, if we do not all that is in our power to urge on this great measure, which the people of this District, with so much zeal, have taken in hand.

On the important subject of politics, it is our purpose to give, as far as may be necessary, a "support to the National Administration," provided, and "so far as it conforms to the principles upon which it secured the support of the Democratic party at the South." Our aim may be added to the increasing treasury of liberal principles and free trade doctrines, which at this time, prevail, to some extent, in England, and more so in the United States. We are in the midst of the greatest political experiment ever made by man, and the influence of one paper, however limited in its contents and circulation, may assist in upholding those principles on which the experiment stands. Should occasion offer, we hope we shall not be found backward in an honest endeavor to sustain the principles of the Democratic party.

It shall be our effort to furnish our readers with the latest news, which can be procured before our publication. In miscellanies, we shall seek to supply variety. We hope that our weekly issue may be found an acceptable visitor in every family in the district that it may reach, and, especially, in the domestic circles of those who may see fit to favor us with their patronage and encouragement.

In presenting, then, to the public, "The Sumter Banner," we hope, trust, and desire, that it may form a new link in the chain of interest and knowledge, friendship and association, which binds us together, as people of one district and of one state, as people who must be true to themselves and others, if they desire and expect others to be true to them. This link, if once firmly bound, will not easily be disavowed, and may assist us in uniting local interest with local friendship.

The Fall Term of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions, for Sumter District, commenced at this place, on Monday last—his Honor, Judge Frost, presiding. We understand that there is a great deal of business before the Court; the issue docket containing upwards of one hundred cases. We believe, however, that there are no cases of much interest or importance. It is the first time, we believe, that Judge Frost has presided in this District.

We call the attention of our readers to the extract, which we publish from the *Washington Union*, of October 27, of a letter, on the subject of a new discovery of an explosive preparation, called "prepared cotton." This extract is the best, on the subject, which we have yet seen, and renders present comment, on our part, unnecessary. We suggest the name of "gun cotton," or "cotton parate," for this new discovery, or invention, rather, as it may more properly be styled. Of the two, the name of "gun cotton," seems preferable, on account of its analogy to the term, "gun powder."

Should the use of this "gun cotton," be adopted in Europe, it is probable that upwards of 300,000 bales of cotton, or, perhaps, a greater quantity, will be annually consumed in that part of the world, in preparing it.

The States of the Germanic confederation have through the Diet, consented to give 100,000 florins, merely for the right of preparing it for the army; or, about 400,000, as the par value of the florin is about 10 cents, in Federal currency.

The first step has already been taken to take out a patent right, in the Patent Office of the United States.

The Crops.—From what we are able to learn, we find that the grain crops of this District, like those of the other Districts of this State, are abundant. Some proof of this is seen in the present low price of corn, compared with its market value during the last spring.

The cotton crops are said to be of an average quantity and quality; though some damage was done, by the wet spring and the ravages of the worm.

DISTRICT ELECTIONS.

We present as accurate a list as we have been able to obtain of the votes for State Senator, polled at the respective boxes of Claremont county, at the late election, on the 12th and 13th of October last:

	Moses.	Rambert.
Sumterville,	183	55
Nettle's,	47	24
Manchester,	32	17
Stateburg,	32	26
Providence,	61	30
Mechanicsville,	10	7
Spring Hill,	68	38
Upper Salem,	97	70
Swimming Pens,	49	30
Middle Salem,	85	100
Total.	667	407

The Hon. F. J. Moses was re-elected, by a majority of 260 votes.

At the same time, Messrs. S. R. Chandler, Dr. J. B. Witherspoon, and F. H. Kennedy, were elected members of the House of Representatives, for the same county.

In Clarendon county, at an election held on the same days, the result was as follows: For the Senate, John L. Manning, 512 W. H. B. Richardson, 203 Majority for Manning, 309

Messrs. G. W. Cooper and M. M. Benbow, were elected to the House.

The election list, for Senator, in the two counties, does not give the whole number of votes polled. There were upwards of fifty more, consisting, principally, of scattering, and other, votes.

There was a light frost, at this place, successively, on the mornings of the 20th and 21st of October. On the morning of the 29th of the same, a white frost was visible, and a recurrence of the light frost, on the 30th. The *Charleston Courier*, of the 30th, mentions, "that a white frost was visible on Charleston Neck, yesterday morning," the 29th ult.

We understand that Wm. A. Fowell, charged with negro stealing, was tried week before last, before his Honor, Judge O'Neal, in Darlington District. He was found guilty, and sentenced to be hung in January next.

The latest news of the Charleston market, show sales of 11,175 bales, at the close of the week ending the 30th Oct., against receipts, in the same time, of 15,465 bales. The prices varied from 8 to 10 cents; by far the greater part selling at from 9 to 10 cents.

At the latest dates, upwards of 9,000 bags of cotton had been disposed of in N. York, privately for exportation, at very full prices. The *Charleston Courier* remarks, that this advice is from letters from New York, received in that city.

The Liverpool cotton market, of Oct. 2d, gives the sales of the week, at 51,799 bales, with an advance of 13 d. per lb.,—and the sales of American cotton at 19,600 bales.

MEXICAN WAR.

By the latest news received, before our paper was put to press, nothing of importance had very recently transpired in the operations of Mexican war. We present our readers with whatever appears interesting.

It appears that General Taylor was induced to conclude the Monterey armistice, partly on "Ampudia's positive assurance that our commissioners were in Mexico, arranging the basis of a treaty," and that Santa Anna was friendly to the United States, and was aware of his falsehood. The Mexican faith of modern days will become as proverbial as the Punic faith of former times, for its falsehood and treachery.

It is doubtful, however, whether Gen. Taylor was much influenced by Ampudia's assurance, as, in such case, he doubtless, would have been informed by our government of such a transaction.

Still Later.—Since writing the above, we have received news still later, which we copy, for the information of our readers, from the *Washington Correspondence* of the *Charleston Courier*, of Oct. 31.

From this it seems that there is some probability that the Palmetto Regiment may soon be called into service.

The President has determined to call out a large body of volunteers. He told a Senator here, the other day, that he should call them chiefly from the South. So the Carolina troops will probably, soon have a chance.

It is presumed that the object of the present call has reference to the reinforcement of General Taylor, and to an expedition from Tampico, under Major General Patterson.

There is every reason to believe that the talk of attack on the Castle of San Juan has been abandoned. The Government has information that the Castle can throw 3,000 shot an hour, to say nothing of other missiles.

The official details of the battle of Monterey have not yet been received, but it is not believed that the messenger has been cut off, as it was, the other day, suggested. It is supposed that General Taylor had not obtained all his returns. To this day, therefore, we have no official report of the American loss.

It is supposed that the enemy have cut off all communication between Monterey

and Camargo.

bable. Santa Anna Mexico, on the for the sent of

It is under consider the p of San Juan believe it will

It was Gen up his march Sept.

We perceive powder," is a invented explosive cotton."

Extract of a letter, from the European correspondent of the *Washington Union*, of 27th Oct., in relation to an explosive preparation of cotton, called, "prepared cotton."

FRANKFURT-ON-THAINE, September 30, 1846.

DEAR SIR: One of the most wonderful scientific discoveries of modern times has been exploded here and at Basle, in Switzerland, within the last few weeks. Professor Balthger of the former place, and Schonbein of the latter, simultaneously, by a similar course of experimenting, have invented a method of preparing raw cotton which will undoubtedly estimate in the discontinuance of the use of gunpowder! The article which they prepare has been submitted to many severe ordeals, and its superiority for all explosive purposes, over gunpowder, is acknowledged by the first chemists and military officers in Germany. I am scarcely believe my own senses when I witness an exhibition of its extraordinary properties.

Upon my arrival in this city I was invited by a friend, a distinguished member of the German Dist. to dine with him, and on receiving his hospitality, I met with and was presented to Professor Balthger, who it is but proper to remark is distinguished for his attainments, and who has charge of the public laboratory as a chemical lecturer. Before the separation of the party, Professor B. took from each of his waistcoat pockets a paper containing some raw cotton; a small portion of that which was in one he placed upon a sheet of white paper, and nearly some gunpowder upon another sheet. He touched them at the same moment with the burning end of a cigar, and with the quickness of the lightning's blast, the cotton was consumed without smoke or odor, or ashes, or even the slightest stain upon the snow white of foilscept while the ignition of the gunpowder seemed to be slow, although of the best quality, by which the paper was burnt and colored, and the room filled with smoke. He then took a small quantity of gunpowder and placing it upon paper, entirely covered it with prepared cotton from the other paper. Touching the cotton with the blaze of a match, it exploded without burning the gunpowder! Subsequently, at my apartment, he exploded cotton upon the palm of my hand, without my feeling the sensation of heat, such was the remarkably rapidity of its ignition.

A short time, it is stated by the inventors, is only required for the preparation of the article, and the process is so exceedingly simple that it can be manufactured by common laborers, and without any danger whatever of combustion. It can be fit for use in a few hours after the cotton is taken from the bale, and with machinery, and it may be thrashed with water without any parties injuriously. As soon as it is again fit for use, there is no apprehend to it from its spontaneous combustion, nor will it ignite by transportation, or in the load arms, or become inflamed under fire of 200-lb. Caisius. It will either from a blaze or a spark.

The fact has been ascertained, that the preparation of the article will propel a bullet from an American rifle as fast as the best cotton powder, and will drive a three ounce ball a distance of six miles. Moreover, the burning of forty shots have been made, and a considerable accumulation of was through out entire firing a 3-pounder, the in this respect. The ting rocks with prepared cotton, have been seen in large blocks, which feet, was blown up by four ounces, which could not have been effected less than two pounds of superior gun powder.

I understand that 125 lbs. of cotton when properly prepared, will weigh 165 lbs., and that it can be used in the same manner as the article which the United States have taken out for Great Britain; and have through the Germanic confederation been consented to give 100,000 florins merely for the right of preparing it for the army, provided a committee, which has been instituted to test it, shall report favorably will be made at Mainz.

Germany is distinguished for many discoveries which Christian era. The